

**ST. GEORGES TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (July 2, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Charlee Crawford of St. Georges Technical High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Delaware Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Crawford is the first Gatorade Delaware Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Georges Technical High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Crawford as Delaware's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Crawford joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 5-foot-5 senior won the 200- and 400-meter dash events at the Division 1 state meet this past season, leading the Hawks to third place as a team. Crawford broke the tape in the 200 in 24.77 seconds and captured the 400 in 56.60 seconds, capping a sweep of those state championship events in all of her varsity seasons. She also won both events at the state Meet of Champions.

Crawford has volunteered locally on behalf of a Learn to Ride a Bike program, and has served as a youth gymnastics coach. "Charlee is excellent at motivating herself and teammates in trying times," said St. Georges coach Lansil Gordon. "She's an amazing athlete and a great person. She's made herself a perfect example to the younger athletes."

Crawford has maintained a 4.12 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Rutgers University this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Crawford joins recent Gatorade Delaware Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Erin Kelleher (2019-20, Padua Academy), Destiny Bailey-Perkins (2018-19, Caesar Rodney High School), Lydia Olivere (2017-18, Padua Academy), and Daija Lampkin (2016-17, Middletown High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Crawford has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Crawford is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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